

**Wauconda, IL-** Congresswoman Melissa Bean (IL-08) was joined by U.S. Senator Dick Durbin to announce the approval of a \$750,000 grant for the village of Wauconda to address water concerns in 5 affected subdivisions, including the Hillcrest subdivision. Bean worked with Durbin and U.S. Senator Barack Obama to successfully include the grant in the EPA's FY06 Appropriations Bill.

\$750,000 will be provided to the Village of Wauconda to extend the village water line out to Wauconda Township residents, some of whose wells were found to contain vinyl chloride in the last couple years. The Wauconda village board approved the action several months ago and will work with Lake County government officials to complete the project.

"The water issue in the Hillcrest community is something that's concerned me for some time. Even before I was elected, I met with residents who were worried and frustrated and felt that little was being done to help them. After I was sworn in, this issue remained one of my top priorities," Bean said, "I'm grateful to Senator Durbin and Senator Obama for joining with me to obtain this important funding. I'm looking forward to continuing to work with them as well as Mayor Saccomanno, Chief Dato, Mr. Anderson and the rest of the community, to finally resolve this issue and make sure families here receive the clean, safe water they need."

"Since the fall of 2003, the residents of Hillcrest and other affected subdivisions have been struggling to find a way to get the safe water they need and deserve," Durbin said. "After a series of EPA tests, long public meetings to determine next steps and a variety of challenges along the way, I believe we've found a solution to the problem. The federal funding we're announcing today will give the Village of Wauconda the resources it needs to connect the residents of Hillcrest Subdivision to a safe, reliable water system. Families living here and in four other subdivisions in the area will no longer have to worry about vinyl chloride when drinking a glass of tap water or taking a shower."

Previously, the board had settled for a 4-inch pipe, which would have been sufficient for water, but insufficient to create enough pressure for a fire hydrant. The \$750,000 federal grant, will allow the village to upgrade the plan to use an 8-inch pipe, not 4-inch, which is wide enough for fire hydrants as well as drinking water.

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